

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (withdrawn) A solid preparation packaging apparatus comprising: a plurality of tablet cases in which respective types of solid preparations are contained; and a thermally fusible packaging paper wound around in a roll shape, so that the solid preparation discharged from said tablet case is packaged in said packaging paper,

wherein said packaging paper is wound around a periphery of a shaft member detachably attached to a rotation shaft to form the roll shape, an engaging portion is formed in said rotation shaft, and an engaged portion attachably/detachably joined to said engaging portion is formed in said shaft member.

Claim 2 (withdrawn) The solid preparation packaging apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the engaging portion is formed to project outside from a base portion of the rotation shaft disposed in an upright manner, the shaft member has a hollow tubular shape, and the engaged portion is notched/formed in an edge of the shaft member.

Claim 3 (withdrawn) The solid preparation packaging apparatus according to claim 1 or 2 wherein a plurality of engaging portions and engaged portions are formed.

**Preliminary Amendment**  
**U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/926,029**

Claims 4-7 (canceled).

Claim 8 (currently amended) A paper roll for packaging a solid preparation, comprising:  
an elongated hollow wall defining a tubular shaft member having concentrically spaced inside and outside surfaces, said outside surface being adapted for receiving a thermally fusible packaging paper wound therearound, said packaging paper being in a double folded state with a folded portion thereof being disposed on an end of the shaft member; and

at least [[two]] four notches having a limited length from an end of said shaft member, each said notch being defined by a recess disposed in the inner surface of said wall of said shaft member communicating with the end of said shaft member and extending to a radial depth short of the outside surface thereof, each said recess forming a thinner, more flexible portion of the wall than portions of the wall between at least two of said recesses.

Claim 9 (currently amended) [[A]] The paper roll for packaging a solid preparation[[,]] according to claim 8, wherein said including a plurality of notches are disposed continuously about a circumference of the inside surface of the shaft member.

Claim 10 (new) The paper roll for packaging a solid preparation according to claim 9, wherein each said notch has a rectangular shape.